

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A control method of a user terminal device  
connected to a server device in a main office through a  
communication line and a home office system having a  
5 display device which is connected to said user terminal  
device, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring a state of a user in a place where said  
user terminal device is located; and

judging whether or not the user has to take a rest  
10 on the basis of a monitoring result obtained in said  
monitoring step,

requesting virtual rest space data for said server  
device if it is judged that the rest has to be taken by  
the user in said judging step; and

15 displaying a virtual rest space on the display  
device upon receiving the virtual rest space data.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein it is  
possible to communicate with other users in the virtual  
20 rest space displayed on the display device in said  
displaying step.

3. A computer-readable storage medium which  
stores a program to cause a user terminal device  
25 connected to a server device in a main office through a  
communication line and a home office system having a  
display device which is connected to said user terminal

device, to execute the following steps of:

monitoring a state of a user in a place where said user terminal device is located; and

judging whether or not the user has to take a rest  
5 on the basis of a monitoring result obtained in said monitoring step,

requesting virtual rest space data for said server device if it is judged that the rest has to be taken by the user in said judging step; and

10 displaying a virtual rest space on the display device upon receiving the virtual rest space data.

4. A medium according to Claim 3, wherein it is possible to communicate with other users in the virtual  
15 rest space displayed on the display device in said displaying step.

5. A control apparatus of a virtual system which has plural user terminal devices and a host server  
20 device connected to said plural user terminal devices through a communication line and creates a virtual space, comprising:

user information obtaining means for obtaining information of a user in a place where said each user  
25 terminal device is located;

user state recognition means for recognizing a state of the user on the basis of information obtained

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by said user information obtaining means; and  
virtual space control means for moving the user in  
the virtual space in accordance with a recognition  
result obtained by said user state recognition means.

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6. An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein  
said user information obtaining means is imaging means  
for imaging the user and said user state recognition  
means recognizes the state of the user on the basis of  
10 an image of the user outputted from said imaging means.

7. An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein  
said user state recognition means recognizes a face  
direction of the user and said virtual space control  
15 means moves the user to another virtual space in a case  
where the user looks toward said user terminal device  
with a predetermined number of times or for a  
predetermined time.

8. An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein  
said user state recognition means recognizes motion of  
the user and said virtual space control means moves the  
user to another virtual space in a case where the  
motion of the user is in a predetermined condition for  
25 a period longer than a previously designated time.

9. An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein



space, said method comprising:

a user information obtaining step of obtaining information of a user in a place where said each user terminal device is located;

5 a user state recognition step of recognizing a state of the user on the basis of information obtained in said user information obtaining step; and

a virtual space control step of moving the user in the virtual space in accordance with a recognition  
10 result obtained in said user state recognition step.

13. A method according to Claim 12, wherein said user information obtaining step is an imaging step of imaging the user and said user state recognition step  
15 recognizes the state of the user on the basis of an image obtained by imaging the user.

14. A method according to Claim 13, wherein said user state recognition step recognizes a face direction  
20 of the user and said virtual space control step moves the user to another virtual space in a case where the user looks toward said user terminal device with a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined time.

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15. A method according to Claim 13, wherein said user state recognition step recognizes motion of the

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user and said virtual space control step moves the user to another virtual space in a case where the motion of the user is in a predetermined condition for a period longer than a previously designated time.

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16. A method according to Claim 12, wherein said user information obtaining step is structured by a voice sound information obtaining step of obtaining voice sound information, said user state recognition step recognizes emotion of the user on the basis of the voice sound information obtained in said voice sound information obtaining step and said virtual space control step moves the user to another virtual space in case of judging that the user is in a great stress condition in accordance with the recognition result obtained in said user state recognition step.

17. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the another virtual space is a space used for taking a cooperative rest.

18. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program to cause a virtual system which has plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to said plural user terminal devices through a communication line and creates a virtual space, to execute the following steps of:

a user information obtaining step of obtaining information of a user in a place where said each user terminal device is located;

5 a user state recognition step of recognizing a state of the user on the basis of information obtained in said user information obtaining step; and

a virtual space control step of moving the user in the virtual space in accordance with a recognition result obtained in said user state recognition step.

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